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Celebrity Buzz

Kate's beau pops the question

pg 14

Citytv axes local newscasts amid national cuts

BROADCASTING Citytv will no longer produce local newscasts in Vancouver after the company announced programming cuts and the elimination of about 60 jobs across Canada yesterday.

Of the job cuts, six were in Vancouver where Lunch Television and The City News List were cancelled.

The company said the restructuring is due to "shifting viewer patterns coupled with the overall state of the economy."

Breakfast Television is also being scaled down to three hours from four.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 6

Olympics Controversial signage

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Renée Smith-Valade, spokesperson for VANOC, in front of the Squamish Nation-owned billboard at the south end of the Burrard Street Bridge yesterday. VANOC is selling space on the controversial sign as part of its commitment to the IOC to buy all outdoor advertising spots in the city. Coverage, page 3

800 teachers receive possible layoff notices

Worst-case scenario could see 'devastating cuts': Union

GREG DOWNS
for Metro Vancouver

Warning letters were sent to 800 teachers yesterday by the Vancouver School Board to notify them of possible layoffs for the following school year.

This comes after the VSB forecast a deficit that could be as high as $36.3 million.

David Weir, communications manager for the VSB, said the 800 letters serve to "cast a wide net" for any worst-case scenarios. A final decision on cuts will be made in April, following the funding envelope the VSB receives from the B.C. government in mid-March.

Chris Harris, president of the Elementary Teachers Association, said if the provincial government doesn't answer the school board's request to increase funding, students' schooling will suffer.

"Purely speculative, but if it's at the high number, what the board has said could be the high end of the deficit, we're looking at devastating, devastating cuts to every single school in Vancouver."

Last year, the provincial government cut millions of dollars in school grants to deal with a $2.8-billion deficit of its own.

Robin Austin, NDP education critic, said teachers are the only thing left to cut.

"Basically all the fat has been cut from the system, now we are facing teachers being laid off ... When school boards are looking at cutting teachers, there's nothing left to cut."

This announcement comes on the heels of the James Dorsey arbitration hearing, which awarded extra vacation time or pay to teachers who work in oversized classrooms.

Harris said cuts would definitely not help the problem. "If you remove teachers from the system, (overcrowding) is just going to get worse."

Five-year hirings

- The 800 teachers sent warning letters were chosen based on seniority and all were hired within the last five years.

Canadians start base for relief

Haiti Crisis

DISASTER An all-but-demolished town on the north shore of Haiti's southern peninsula finally saw signs that help was on the way yesterday as Canadian sailors landed on a garbage-strewn beach to lay the foundations of a sustained relief effort.

Disgorged by the destroyer HMCS Athabaskan as it loomed just offshore, sailors began arriving at Leogane in inflatable Zodiac boats, their mission to secure and reconnoitre the area for an influx of soldiers expected in the coming days.

For the residents of Leogane, which was 90 per cent levelled in last week's quake, it was the first sign in a while that they haven't been forgotten.

"We need water and medicine," said local resident Sam Moly. "We got nothing (from the international community). Everything we do, we do for ourselves."

HMCS Athabaskan brings little in terms of actual food and water, but is more equipped to provide support to existing agencies, to provide leadership in chaotic communities, and to better assess their needs and priorities.

The effort in Haiti is moving from rescue to relief, said army engineer Capt. Blaine Thurston: Treating secondary infections, performing cleanup tasks and maintaining peace and security. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGES 4, 5

News on the Move

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Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. • Today — Omischl chasing elusive gold, page 8

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Local

Premier marches on after foot surgery

His political foes might say he's a lame duck leader, but Gordon Campbell, left, says he's just plain lame — for the time being. The B.C. premier limped into the legislature after undergoing minor surgery on his right foot to treat a condition called Morton's Neuroma, which makes the nerves between the toes swell. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympic mascots **Such great heights**

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

People look out from a balcony as oversized Vancouver Olympics mascots Sumi, top, and Quatchi adorn a downtown office tower. Various downtown buildings have been wrapped for the Games.

VANOC controls signs

Squamish-owned billboards display Olympic ads

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

VANOC has started advertising for the 2010 Olympics on the six controversial Squamish-owned billboards around Metro Vancouver.

The organizing committee had made an agreement with the IOC to purchase all outdoor advertising space during the Games — including buses — in part to avoid ambush marketing from companies that aren't sponsors.

The advertisements will last until the end of the Paralympic Games.

"This is billboard space we were required to buy," said Renée Smith-Valade, a spokesperson for VANOC.

"The purpose is to provide practical public information as we lead up to the Games. That includes information about traffic (and) buying tickets."

The electronic billboards have been controversial since they went up in early December, including at the south end of the Burrard Street Bridge and along the Sea-to-Sky Highway.

Opponents argue they're an eyesore and will distract drivers, but the Squamish Nation, which owns the signs, said they'll bring in much-needed revenue.

No 2010 sponsors have bought space on the billboards yet, and the only ads right now are for the Games, the Squamish Nation and for Mel Gibson's new movie, Edge Of Darkness.

Retailer shot at in jewelry-store theft

CRIME A jewelry-store owner in West Vancouver was shot at twice yesterday while trying to use bear spray on robbers attempting to flee with more than $100,000 worth of goods.

Gino Giragosian, owner of Absolute Star Design in Dundarave Mall, also had a bat when he chased down the armed robbers.

Once deployed, the bear spray blew back into his face and the robbers fired two shots. Both missed the retailer.

Police searched cars for suspects on the eastbound Upper Levels Highway and Marine Drive for two hours, causing huge backups on both routes. Four suspects have been arrested.

METRO VANCOUVER

SFU alumni taking part in opening of new theatre

ARTS A gaggle of Simon Fraser University grads will take part in the opening performance at the Fei and Milton Wong Experimental Theatre at SFU Woodward's.

The Show Must Go On, part of the annual PuSh International Performing Arts Festival, begins tonight and runs through Jan. 23.

It features more than 20 SFU alums — including newspaper dance critic and former Lions Bay mayor Max Wyman — performing various tasks as a DJ spins pop songs.

One of the performers, Tanya Marquardt, who graduated from SFU's theatre department in 2000, said the opening of the modern theatre is a big occasion for SFU's School for the Contemporary Arts.

"They wanted alumni to open the new theatre," Marquardt said. "It's a really important thing for the department ... It's been so much work, and it's been so long coming."

JEFF HODSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

Details

- The Show Must Go On runs four nights at 8 p.m. at the Fei and Milton Wong Experimental Theatre at SFU Woodward's. Tickets are $30. For more information visit pushfestival.ca.

Protesters blame Woodward's 'ripple effects' for rising rents

DTES Rent in the Downtown Eastside has been on the rise and Woodward's-style projects are to blame, according to protesters at a rally in the area yesterday.

"Woodward's has had bad ripple effects on the low-income and aboriginal community. Indirectly, it caused speculation; the land value increased," said Wendy Pedersen of the Carnegie Community Action Project.

According to CCAP, someone on welfare has about $375 for rent, which leaves them with very few choices outside of single-room occupancy hotels.

"The rent in hotels (SROs), which are the last step before homelessness, are going up, so people are ending up in the streets," said Pedersen.

A survey done by CCAP shows that the number of SROs charging rent above $400 has increased by 44 per cent between 2008 and 2009.

"We're asking the city of Vancouver to hold off on adding more condos to the Downtown Eastside until you find a way to subsidize people in this neighbourhood," said Petersen.

STIG NIELSEN/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

AVALANCHE One man is dead and another suffered broken legs after they were swept away in an avalanche and pushed into trees near Sicamous, northeast of Kamloops. The slide on Monday hit a group of four snowmobilers — three from Alberta and one from Manitoba. The dead man's identity has not been released.

LIQUOR NPA Coun. Suzanne Anton brought a motion to city council yesterday to change city liquor-store regulations to allow the sale of spirits in new stores. Under current bylaws, all new private liquor stores may only sell beer and wine in their first year of operation.

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Air travellers to the U.S. allowed carry-on bags
Ottawa is relaxing its rules for flying into the United States by allowing passengers to take one carry-on bag on the plane. The changes announced yesterday by Transport Minister John Baird take effect today at all Canadian airports. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada/World

Harper tinkers with cabinet positions

Day takes over top spot on Treasury Board

Prime Minister Stephen Harper called it "fine-tuning the ministry," perhaps because "recalibrate" was already taken.

Three weeks after he shut down Parliament to give his minority government an extended winter break to "recalibrate" its agenda, Harper performed a minor makeover on his cabinet yesterday that left most major portfolios untouched.

"This is the cabinet that will lead us through the second and final phase of our economic action plan," Harper declared.

The cabinet changes, which touch on 13 portfolios, were headlined by a Conservative government pitch to wrestle down the staggering deficits that sprang seemingly from nowhere after the October 2008 election and threaten to march indefinitely into the future.

38 At 38 members, including Stephen Harper, the Conservative executive is close to the all-time high of 40 appointed by Brian Mulroney in 1984.

Stockwell Day, the former flamboyant Canadian Alliance leader who has mellowed into a yeoman cabinet performer for Harper, was moved out of International Trade to the Treasury Board, where he has a mandate to keep a tight lid on public spending.

"It will be essential for the government to restrain the growth of spending," said Harper. "The president of the Treasury Board plays a critical role in overseeing government expenditures."

Day, asked about his future cabinet vocabulary, deadpanned: "I think you'll hear two words: No and no."

But government economic retooling was hardly the theme of yesterday's shuffle.

Senior economic portfolios, including Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, Industry Minister Tony Clement, Infrastructure and Transport Minister John Baird, and Human Resources Minister Diane Finley remained unchanged.

Also untouched were Defence, Environment, Foreign Affairs, Heritage, Indian Affairs and Justice.

It is in essence the same crew that drove program spending up by 17.6 per cent over their first three years in power.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

UN adds Haiti backup

Haiti Crisis

The UN Security Council yesterday unanimously approved 3,500 extra troops and police officers to beef up security in Haiti and ensure that desperately needed aid gets to earthquake victims as the world body defended itself against criticism that millions still don't have food or water.

A week after the 7.0-magnitude quake struck, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon said the UN food agency distributed rations for nearly 200,000 people. It is a small percentage of the three million to 3.5 million the UN says have been affected. Ban said the UN goal is to increase the number of people receiving food to one million this week and at least two million in the following two weeks.

"The situation is overwhelming," Ban told reporters. But he said "initial difficulties and bottlenecks" in delivering relief items are being overcome and UN relief operations "are gearing up quickly."

He cited a new system at the airport giving priority to humanitarian flights, the opening of five new land corridors to deliver aid and U.S.-led efforts to open port facilities possibly sometime next week. In addition, badly damaged hospitals are starting to function, water supplies are increasing, and more tents and temporary shelters are arriving, he said.

The resolution adopted by the Security Council yesterday will add 2,000 troops to the 7,000 military peacekeepers already in Haiti and 1,500 police to the 2,100-strong international police force. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Orphans readied for Netherlands

• A charter plane heading to Haiti to pick up 109 children being adopted by Dutch families will reach Port-au-Prince today, the Dutch government said, as an adoption expert warned against hastily plucking children out of the quake-shattered nation. The Foreign Ministry said the children were being gathered in an orphanage and will be bussed to the city's airport for medical checks before the plane lands.

Let Haitians in Canada: Groups

Haiti Crisis

PETER MCCABE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A police officer talks to a woman in Montreal on Monday as hundreds of Haitian-Canadians crowded around a law office in the hope of fast-tracking their loved ones into Canada, only to be turned away after waiting up to seven hours. Yesterday they were back, still hoping to help relatives from Haiti.

FAMILIES Immigration advocates are pleading with the Canadian government to be more flexible in allowing evacuees arriving from quake-ravaged Haiti to be joined by their relatives.

A coalition of refugee and immigrant groups presented a number of requests yesterday for Ottawa to further relax its entry rules during the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

They delivered that lengthy list as distressed Haitian-Canadians continued massing outside the offices of immigration consultants in the desperate hope they might help get their loved ones here faster.

Advocates want the definition of who qualifies for family reunification to be broadened beyond the immediate household to include brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and grandparents.

They say Ottawa has shown some signs of flexibility, but needs to do far more. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Russia **Rally for slain journalist**

MISHA MAKARIDZE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Demonstrators carry a portrait of slain journalist Anastasia Baburova, right, during a protest in Moscow yesterday. More than 500 activists rallied in memory of a human-rights lawyer and a journalist killed a year ago, and several dozen of them were detained by police.

A 13-hour ride for web access

CHINA They arrive at this gritty desert crossroad weary from a 13-hour train ride but determined. The promised land lies just across the railway station plaza: A large sign that says "Easy Connection Internet Cafe."

The visitors are Internet refugees from China's western Xinjiang region, whose 20-million people been without links to the outside world since the government blocked virtually all online access, text messages and international phone calls after ethnic riots in July. Authorities unplugged Xinjiang, a sprawling area three times the size of Texas, in an attempt to prevent a repeat of the ethnic rioting between the Han Chinese majority and the mainly Muslim Uighur minority that the government says left almost 200 dead. China's government blamed overseas activists.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

MASSACHUSETTS In a major upset in liberal Massachusetts, Republican Scott Brown rode a wave of voter anger to defeat Democrat Martha Coakley in a U.S. Senate election yesterday that may leave President Barack Obama's health-care overhaul in doubt.

VIRGINIA A lone shooter killed eight people yesterday in central Virginia, and police had the suspect circled in the woods last night. The suspect at one point fired at a police helicopter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SCANLIFE
Rising demand for hybrid and electric vehicles will mean big changes for government budgets, experts say. Scan this code for the story.

News in brief

INTERNET Canada's privacy watchdog should investigate Nexopia and how the youth-oriented social networking site uses the personal information of its members, an advocacy group said yesterday.

EDMONTON An infant will remain on life support in an Edmonton hospital until the courts can decide how to deal with a request from his parents for more time to assess his health.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Comment

Fewer jewels, more forethought

TheWestView

Rush Limbaugh is an appalling person. In the wake of the Haiti earthquake, he responded to U.S. President Barack Obama's plea for donations by advising his radio audience not to respond: "We've already donated. It's called the U.S. income tax."

When it comes down to the angels versus Rush Limbaugh, you always want to be on the side of the angels. But you also have to wonder about the angels.

With the best of intentions, the angels (including all the minor deities: Celebrities, the media, well-meaning politicos and, above all, Bono) are contributing to disaster fatigue.

Case in point: Did you watch the Golden Globes Sunday? A parade of (literally) overexposed starlets took to the stage, each wearing a ribbon to express solidarity with the people of Haiti, along with hundreds of thousands of dollars in gowns, jewels and boob jobs, each solemnly encouraging me to give, apparently unaware of the unattractive juxtaposition.

Point 2. In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, various celebrity journalists wandered around the devastation that was once Port-Au-Prince, poking cameras into the faces of dazed survivors, lamenting the devastation. Not one hair out of place. I kept waiting for one of them to put the damn mike down, roll up designer sleeves, and get to work. Or at least give someone a drink of water.

I'm not done yet: This Friday, various superstars will get together and stage a good old-fashioned telethon, thanks to the noble efforts of George Clooney. More jewels and gowns for disaster. Right after the show, you'll be able to download the tunes, with all the proceeds going to Haiti. Please ignore the subtle undercurrent of exploitation.

Meanwhile, rescue forces haven't even tallied up all the dead, while they have to cope with aftershocks, looters, disease and unimaginable deprivation.

I'm not sure how much of this is helping and how much of it is marketing. Haven't we learned anything about nature's capacity to kick the poor of the world in the teeth, and can't we get there with food, water and rescue faster? Why does it always seem that the governments of the world have been taken by surprise, and it's up to you and me to bail them out? Isn't it time to change the script?

I realize Haiti needs to be rebuilt from the ground up, but I wonder if we could do with fewer gowns and jewels and more forethought and effective response.

And if that makes me more like Rush Limbaugh and less like Bono, I guess I'll have to live with it.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Today is the one-year anniversary of Barack Obama's inauguration. Has Obama met your expectations as president of the U.S.?

Julie Coh
Vancouver

A: I think (he's met expectations) but you can't really expect too much after the last president.

Todd Balsdom
Vancouver

A: He's not moving as fast as some people would have liked, and he's flip-flopped on some issues ... but he is making efforts. He has been left a pretty big mess to clean up.

Krystyn Jones
Vancouver

A: The whole thing with not supporting gay marriage, I don't really think so. That's one thing I was really stoked about and he really didn't live up to that.

Mark Nordstrom
Edmonton

A: I was anticipating him to institute the changes he promised, but he hasn't quite lived up to all of them yet.

Katelynn Fraser
Calgary

A: I think he has potential to bring the United States out of the economic meltdown, so I think he has lived up to expectations.

Ryan Nairn
Ottawa

A: No, not really. He's done what every other president has done. I think there is someone bigger than him that tells him what to do.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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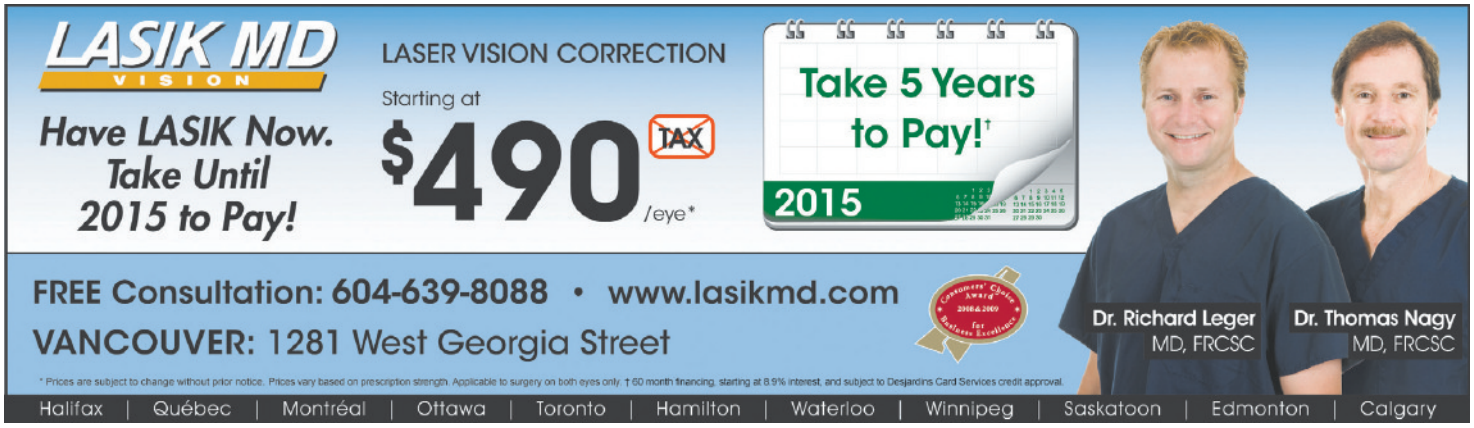
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JAL files for bankruptcy

Japan Airlines filed for one of the country's largest bankruptcies ever yesterday, entering a restructuring that will shrink Asia's top carrier by thousands of jobs and reduce its presence around the world. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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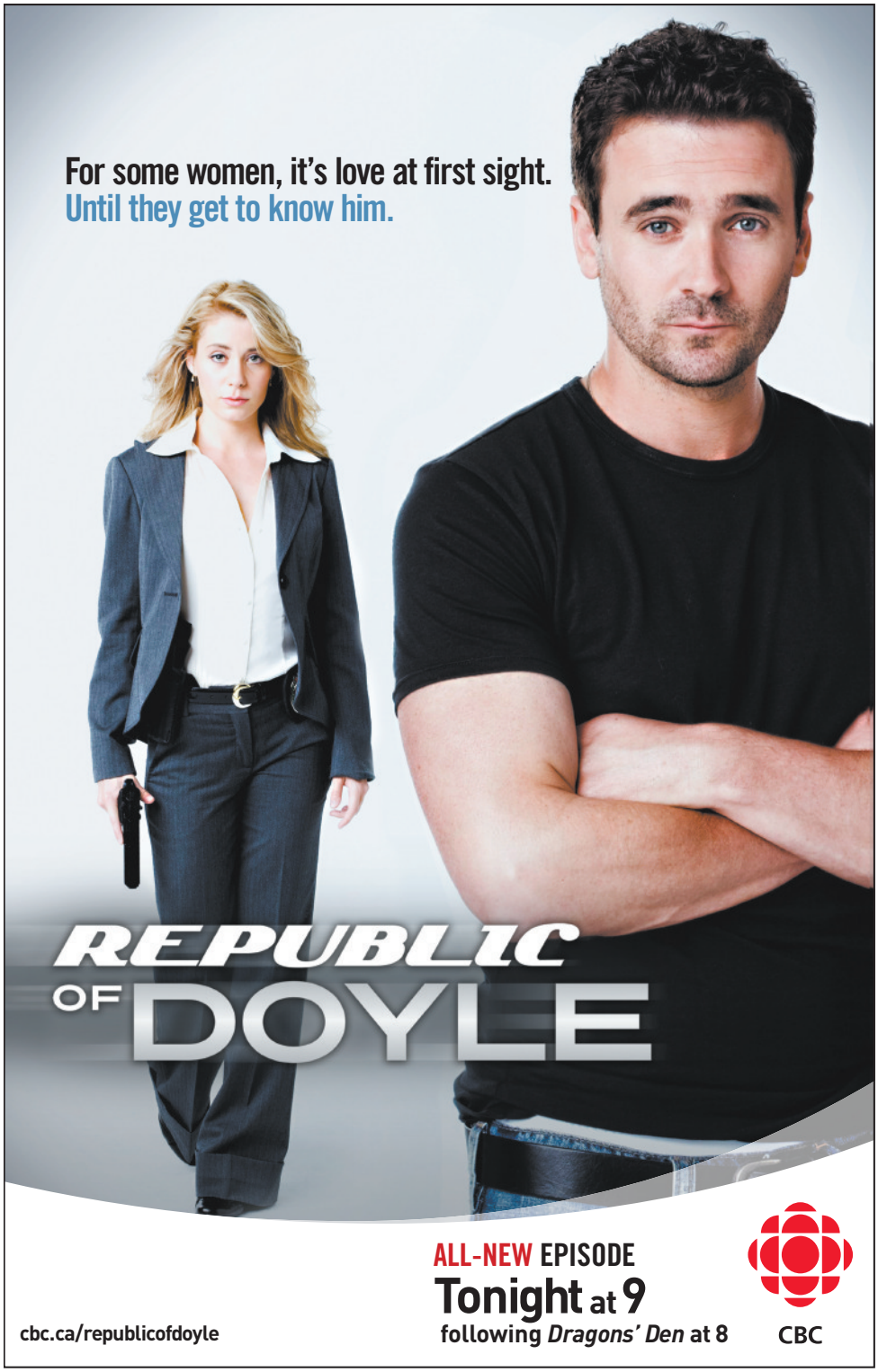
EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

TAKEOVER XM Canada says it plans to diversify away from its strong foothold in the automotive satellite radio industry by tapping into the growing iPhone application and GPS markets.

SPENDING Government and consumer spending will help drive most of Canada's economic growth this year, says the Conference Board's Canadian winter outlook. The economic think-tank said yesterday the country's economic outlook looks much brighter today than it did a year ago, but the forecast for recovery remains muted.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Boost needed, BoC claims

Signals low interest rates to stay

The global recovery is strengthening, but still needs a boost from massive "extraordinary" stimulus measures to sustain growth, the Bank of Canada said yesterday.

And the central bank also signalled once again it intends to keep interest rates at historic lows until at least mid-year despite growth returning to the Canadian economy.

"Economic growth in Canada resumed in the third quarter of 2009 and is expected to have picked up further in the fourth quarter," bank governor Mark Carney and his policy-making council said in an accompanying note.

"Nevertheless, considerable excess supply remains, and the bank judges that the economy was operating about 3.25 per cent below its production capacity in the fourth quarter of 2009."

The statement, which included a minor downgrade in projected growth for this year, suggests Canada will be taking a message to the G7 meeting of finance ministers and bank governors in February that now is not the time for governments to exit stimulus strategies.

In the statement yesterday, the bank said it would do its part by keeping its trendsetting rate at 0.25 per cent until at least mid-year.

Growth forecast

- As well, the bank tweaked its October economic growth forecast for this year a tenth of a point lower to 2.9 per cent. However, it said 2011 would be slightly better than it thought, with growth projected at 3.5 per cent. And a new report on leading indicators from Statistics Canada, released before the bank's announcement, offered more evidence that economic activity picked up last month.

Scotiabank economist Derek Holt noted that the central bank removed from its text an earlier comment that "significant fragilities remain."

Economists are projecting that Canada's gross domestic product grew by between three and four per cent in the last three months of 2009, and will likely advance at a similar pace this winter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Feel like you missed the boat on the 2009 market rally? A new study suggests you're far from alone. Scan this code for the story.

Rogers swings axe to Citytv stations

BROADCASTING Citytv will no longer produce local newscasts in Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton, and Toronto's will be severely gutted, after the company announced programming cuts and the elimination of about 60 jobs yesterday.

Citytv, owned by Rogers Communications Inc., announced it is restructuring television operations, cutting newscasts and jobs in cities across the country effective immediately.

Jobs and programming have been affected in Vancouver, Toronto, Calgary and Edmonton, and there will also be job losses in Winnipeg. Rumours of the cuts were widely reported on Twitter postings and blogs early in the day, but the company remained tight-lipped until it released a sparse press release. The company said the restructuring is due to "shifting viewer patterns coupled with the overall state of the economy."

"Today's changes, although difficult, are necessary to align our operations with the economic and regulatory realities of our industry," Leslie Sole, CEO, Rogers Media Television said in the statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Peca retires
Michael Peca is retiring from hockey. The 35-year-old announced yesterday that he's calling it quits after 13 seasons in the NHL. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

Alex Burrows caused a stir with his accusations against referee Stephane Auger.

Burrows no boy scout

TheHockeyNews

Rory Boylen
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As a fan, you always have to stand by your team. And given how Alex Burrows has been driving the offence alongside the Sedins more than usual lately, who wouldn't stand by one of their team's best players?

But in Burrows' case, everything needs to be put in perspective. It's not as though a Lady Byng candidate questioned the integrity of referees after a loss — it was a frustrated Burrows, known as an agitator and who was flustered after being in the box for a key goal late in the game against Nashville.

Should Burrows' accusations be taken seriously? Absolutely. The NHL should — and did — look into the matter, and if there was any game-rigging going on there's no way any league would stand for it.

So should the relative silence from the NHL and Stephane Auger be assumed as a coverup? Not a chance. Everything being equal, I'd believe the referee's word over that of Burrows any day of the week.

In the first game after the infamous Nashville tilt, Burrows gave a little shot to the midsection of one of the Minnesota Wild players after the final buzzer sounded. It wasn't serious enough to be a suspension or to cause injury and it's the type of thing players of Burrows' ilk pull all the time.

But it's also exactly why he, nor any of his counterparts, should not and will not be given the benefit of the doubt in any situation.

The fact the exasperated words he spoke after such a frustrating loss were taken as the undeniable truth is laughable. Remember who we're dealing with here folks: An antagonist vs. a professional hockey moderator who gets accused of bad calls all the time.

The next time a referee makes a bad call in the last few minutes that leads to a game-changing power play goal, are we all to assume the fix is in?

What a joke.

Don't get me wrong, Burrows is a good player and plays a gritty, in-your-face style I love and employ myself on the ice.

But it's also common knowledge that by playing such a game, you're opening yourself up for borderline calls here or there because of your reputation, and you just have to live with it when it happens — much like refs live with you when you get carried away. Jan. 11, 2010 wasn't the first time this ever happened in hockey.

So while any fans will back their favorite players, here we are eight days later and feathers are still ruffled over this non-issue. Even the fans have to get some perspective sometimes and come to the realization that their boy doesn't have the cleanest background, and that there's more to this picture than a single interference call late in a mid-season game.

The Hockey News thn.com

m.metronews.ca
SCANLIFE
Sergio Garcia has some advice for his troubled colleague Tiger Woods.
Scan this code for the full story.

SCOREBOARD

NHL
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Ottawa 4 Chicago 1
Atlanta 4 Toronto 3
N.Y. Rangers 8 Tampa Bay 2
Philadelphia 5 Columbus 3
Pittsburgh 6 N.Y. Islanders 4
Washington 3 Detroit 2
Anaheim 5 Buffalo 4
San Jose 5 Los Angeles 1

NBA
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Cleveland 108 Toronto 100
Miami 113 Indiana 83

Sports in brief

TENNIS Canadians were shut out of the second round of the Australian Open women's singles draw after Aleksandra Wozniak and Stephanie Dubois both lost their opening matches today.

NFL Chan Gailey was hired by the Buffalo Bills yesterday, getting a second chance to prove himself as an NFL coach and inheriting a team that has missed the playoffs for 10 straight years.

QMJHL Mikael Tam has left hospital, but it remains uncertain how long the Quebec Remparts defenceman will be out of action after a nasty hit to the head from Rouyn-Noranda Huskies centre Patrice Cormier. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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McIvor and Duncan finish first
Ashleigh McIvor finished first in women's qualifying at the skicross World Cup yesterday while fellow Canadian David Duncan took top spot in the men's qualification. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Superstar aerialist prepares for last shot at Olympic gold

QUEST Eight years ago, aerialist Steve Omischl had the physical tools to reach an Olympic podium but lacked the mental toughness. Four years later, Omischl was mentally strong but a serious foot injury curtailed his quest for an Olympic title.

Now 31 and facing his final Winter Games, the native of North Bay is of sound mind and body as he takes his final crack at the gold medal that has eluded him twice before.

Omischl is a superstar in his sport, with a resumé that includes four World Cup overall championships, five Canadian titles and 20 career World Cup victories. But it's a pair of less impressive showings that stand out the most — Omischl placed 11th in his first Olympics in Salt Lake City in 2002, then slipped to 20th at the 2006 Games in Turin, Italy.

Omischl admitted he didn't know what to expect as a 23-year-old making his first Games appearance.

"I was overwhelmed at how big and flashy everything was," Omischl says in a recent interview. "Instead of competing in places where nobody really cares, we have 20,000 people in the stands and there's all this media attention. As a young kid, I definitely got caught up in the expectation of it all, and I got away from remembering what got me there."

He suffered a plantar fasciitis injury in July 2005 and was forced to miss several months of training, and entered the Turin Olympics completely out of his comfort zone.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY IMAGES

Steve Omischl competes at FIS Freestyle Skiing World Cup on Jan. 15 in Park City, Utah.

Venues get final touchup

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Organizers of the 2010 Games are hurrying hard to ensure venues look and feel like Olympic sites and that issues — including humidity from the coats of sopping wet spectators — don't affect athletes' performances.

Jan Damnavits, VANOC's director of city venues, said the Richmond Olympic Oval and the Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Centre, home of long-track speedskating and curling, respectively, are in a three-to-four-week "fit out" stage of preparation.

Tents and fences are being put up and security perimeters are being established. The bright green and blue Vancouver 2010 graphics are being plastered on fences and buildings.

"We're on plan," Damnavits said yesterday during a tour of the two venues.

"The Games are coming on the 12th and the venues have to open. It's not an option to wait until the 13th."

The Richmond Olympic Oval, which will hold 7,600 spectators, will have 57 temporary tents, 23 trailers and 75 portable toilets.

More than 30 kilometres of cable is being installed for broadcast lighting.

Large white tents were also used to create a double-door to keep humidity in the Oval low.

Inside, the large river-facing windows have been plastered with green-and-blue images of speed skaters.

Mark Messer, the Oval's ice expert, said the ice-making process began about a week ago with the cleaning of the building and the gradual cooling of the concrete slab.

The first coat of ice was applied and the ice was painted with Vancouver 2010 and the Olympic motto: With Glowing Hearts.

The Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Centre, which will hold 5,600 spectators and will be the largest curling venue in the history of the Games, will use 26 tents to form a covered concourse for spectators.

"The outside environment can have a very positive or negative impact on the field of play," said Neil Houston, manager of curling during the Games.

"The major challenge at this point is that we haven't had 6,000 people and pouring rain to test it out fully."

Water evaporating because of body heat from the clothes of thousands of drenched fans could raise humidity in the building, he said. It could cause frost on the ice and could impact the way the stones respond.

GM Place, which will become Canada Hockey Place during the Games, will not begin its formal "fit-out" process until after Jan. 27, the date of the final Vancouver Canucks home game until March.

Damnavits said the process at GM Place will be very short and will have to be completed in a week and a half at the most.

JEFF HODSON/METRO CANADA

An icemaker sprays water on the long-track speedskating track at the Richmond Olympic Oval yesterday. The ice-making process began about a week ago.

No loonies

- Venue managers for both the Oval and the Olympic Centre said there would be no loonies buried in the ice during the 2010 Games.

METRO HOCKEY POOL STANDINGS*

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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Joanne Doiron	NB, CA	574	232	346	578
2. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	603	259	315	574
3. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	577	232	339	571
3. Jean-Paul Osborne	QC, CA	596	233	338	571
3. Shawn Tschritter	AB, CA	593	231	340	571
6. Brian B	AB, CA	592	236	334	570
7. Cole Warren	NS, CA	584	206	359	565
7. Jonathon Gremsperger	BC, CA	599	241	324	565
9. Feroz Mir	ON, CA	594	224	334	558
9. Steve Ferguson	ON, CA	593	235	323	558
11. Tom Collier	NS, CA	608	252	305	557
12. Paula Almeida-Stille		592	234	321	555
12. Stephen Stille	ON, CA	592	234	321	555
14. Matty Strathearn	NS, CA	602	236	318	554
15. Brad Goertz	BC, CA	570	196	357	553

* Results exclude Quebec

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ACAD president to step down
Alberta College of Art and Design president Lance Carlson announced his resignation last Wednesday after serving as the head of the institution for six years. His surprise resignation comes into effect June 30. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Two professors among Haiti deaths

According to the Montreal Gazette, two Quebec professors are among the casualties of last week's earthquake in Haiti. Denis Bellavance, a Cégep de Drummondville computer science professor, was lecturing at a university in Port-au-Prince when the earthquake hit. Georges Anglade, a retired geography professor who helped set up the Université du Québec à Montréal, and his wife died in the quake when the house they were in collapsed on top of them. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Keeping you healthy at school

Working at School

Every Wednesday of January, Metro's Workology section will be featuring a variety of careers that you may not have thought of; jobs in which you stay in college or university after graduating. There are many jobs that make post-secondary institutions hum, here's but a few:

The health service you receive while in university or college can be some of the best in the city you're in, depending on your institution.

"We have the best health service in the city."
Nurse manager Jane Collins of St. Mary's University

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

Enrolling in a university gives students access to a range of fitness and health experts the likes of which they'll never see again, with staff on hand to get you into shape and to deal with injuries if it goes badly.

Susan Yurincich, fitness centre manager at Brock University, points to the school's qualified instructors in spin class, kick boxing, ball workouts, aqua fitness, dance, fencing and Japanese swordsmanship.

"You also get a free orientation with a personal trainer," she says. "(Students) get their own fitness program created for them."

Brock, which has campuses in St. Catharine's and Hamilton, both in Ontario, has hundreds of varsity and intramural teams in sports such as soccer, volley ball, hockey, underwater hockey and dodge ball.

"Just having a Brock student card, they automatically get the use of our indoor track, all the gyms, our studios, the whirlpool, the pool, squash courts and outdoor tennis courts," Yurincich says. Most other post-secondary institutions work this way as well.

Joe Kenny, head of Brock's Athletic Therapy Clinic, oversees a staff including three full-time athletic therapists, three sports medicine doctors and an orthopedic surgeon to deal with any sports-related injuries, be they varsity or intramural.

University is a great time to get sick, too. In Halifax, nurse manager Jane Collins sees 60 to 70 students a day at Saint Mary's University's Student Health Centre. Complaints range from bad backs to sexually transmitted infections to mental-health issues.

"We have the best health service in the city," Collins says, with a team of practitioners led by five doctors swiftly tending to sick students. "If anybody comes by who has a sore throat or something urgent like a bladder infection, we always fit them in."

The centre does blood work onsite, saving students a trip to the hospital. It can also do minor surgeries like wart removal. The costs are included in the student health plan. That's great news for international students, who otherwise would face a hefty bill and a long wait with a trip to the emergency room.

The centre closes on the weekends, but it's not unusual for Collins to get a call on her cellphone from a student who needs the morning-after pill. She always makes sure they get what they need.

For mental health, they have psychiatrists and student counsellors to whom they refer students and psychologists are covered under the health plan. "We're very aware of mental health. This is the age of early psychosis," she explains. "If somebody comes in who's obviously in a psychotic episode, we send them to the early psychosis program or the psych nurse at the local hospital."

The centre also provides information on sexuality and sexual health, including daily tests for STIs.

"There's all kinds of pamphlets and educational material," Collins says.

For more of the Working at School exclusive series check Workology every Wednesday or stop by: metronews.ca/work

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Construction launched for NBCC campus in Fredericton

Construction has started on the new Fredericton campus of the New Brunswick Community College. To be located at the University of New Brunswick, the $15 million facility will accommodate programs in health, business administration and information technology, among other things. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sometimes it pays to be bold

Dragons' Den

Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."
–GOETHE, GERMAN NOVELIST AND POET

I went looking for a quote about being bold — because boldness is what stands out to me about tonight's edition of Dragons' Den.

One of the Dragons makes a sudden and dramatic move, offering an investment before the other dragons have finished asking all their questions of the entrepreneur in front of them. If you watch the program regularly, you know that these business moguls typically like to have a lot of information before putting any of their own money on the line.

But tonight, the sole female Dragon, Arlene Dickinson doesn't hesitate. "I'm going to make you a deal," she says to two pitchers from Ontario, mere minutes into the presentation.

Kevin is shocked. "Arlene, you spoke way too soon."

"There's a reason it's called women's intuition and not men's intuition," retorts Arlene. "I think this is exactly the kind of idea I want."

Needless to say, Arlene's bold step changes the dynamics of the pitch completely. How fascinating it is to watch these multi-millionaires jostle for position!

Her move made me think about how in our working lives, it is sometimes critical to move decisively, and with confidence.

In my role as a news anchor at CBC News, I see how the programming chiefs have to make big decisions almost instantaneously, for example, to go into "special mode" for coverage of the Haiti earthquake. Hundreds of news staff across the country have to change whatever they're doing, on the spot, to undertake new activities.

But not only leaders have a chance to be bold. Anyone in an organization may realize there's a better way to do things, and make a suggestion that could improve the efficiency or productivity of a workplace. It's so easy to do nothing. But to step forward with some creative thoughts, you need to be bold.

CBC PHOTO

Arlene Dickinson decided to follow her woman's intuition on tonight's Dragons' Den on CBC Television.

It's the same with new career opportunities. The people who allow uncertainty or a lack of confidence to hold them back often get left in the dust, while someone who may not be any better qualified steps into an exciting new role — simply because they are more confident.

Boldness may not always have genius, power and magic in it — but passivity never does.

Dianne Buckner is the host of Dragons' Den and the weekend anchor on the CBC News Network. Watch Dragons' Den at 8 p.m. tonight on CBC.

Job duties can change on a dime

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

Metronews.ca/workplacelaw

This is the cautionary tale of an employee who incorrectly assumed their employers had no right to change the terms of their jobs.

Experiencing an enrolment crisis, Acadia University decided that it had no other choice but to remove oversight of enrolment and admissions from Paula Cook Mackinnon's job. Mackinnon, who had been employed by the university in a senior role for 19 years, disagreed.

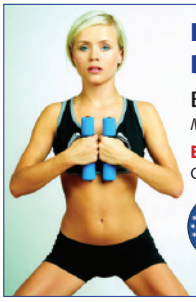
Believing that the university could not remove an important aspect of her job without advance notice or consultation with her, Mackinnon penned a letter to the president stating that she viewed the changes as significant and tantamount to a demotion. She gave the university a few days to consider her concerns and provide a response.

When the university did not respond to Mackinnon's letter before her deadline, she shut off her BlackBerry, cleaned out her personal items from her office and swiftly left the premises, never to return.

The law of constructive dismissal provides that an employee can treat fundamental changes to her job as effectively amounting to a termination. And in Canadian workplace law, when you are terminated without a good reason, you are entitled to severance.

Justice Gregory Warner, who wrote the recent decision, ruled Mackinnon's job was not substantially different following the changes, as enrolment amounted to less than one quarter of her job. The university was entitled to reasonable leeway with changing business needs. READ THE FULL FEATURE AT METRONEWS.CA/WORKLAW

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.



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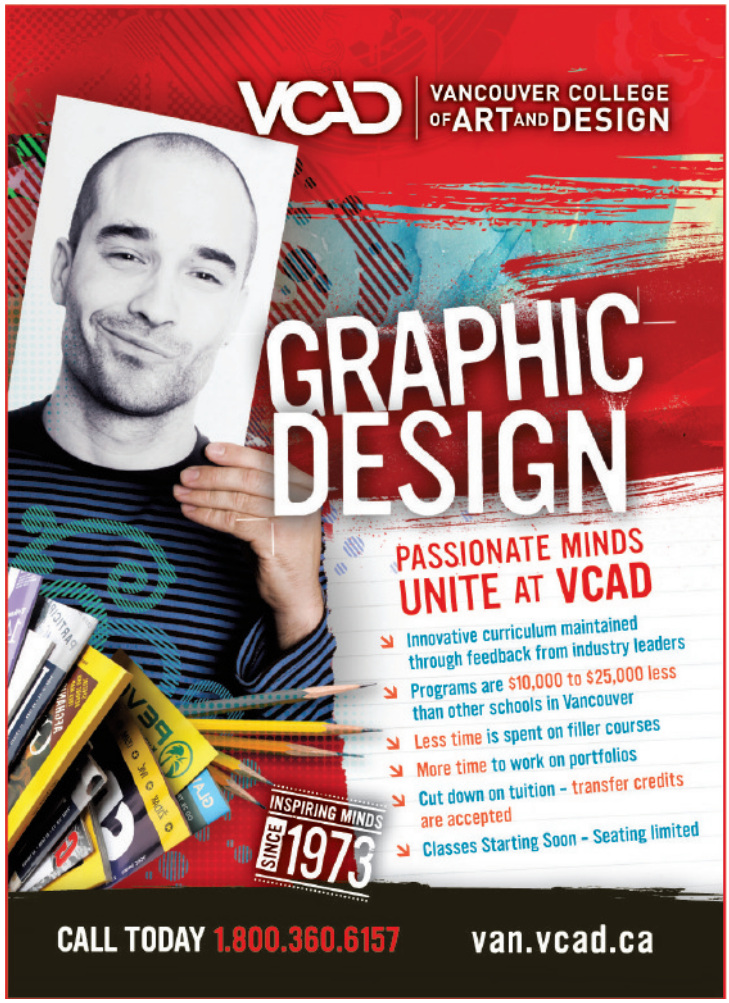
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Residual Value winners announced

The 2010 Canadian Residual Value Award winners have been announced by ALG, which publishes the Automotive Lease Guide for residual values and depreciation. The top place among mainstream brands was taken by Subaru while Infiniti took the highest honours among luxury brands. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

Scion has arrived

The Scion brand has officially come to the Canadian market, with the full lineup making its debut at the Montreal International Auto Show last week through three highly customized, urban-aware models. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

GMC Terrain: Tough charm

PETER BLEAKNEY
for Metro Canada

The 2010 GMC Terrain swaggers into the cute-ute arena with bulging fenders, chunky stance and a don't-mess-with-me front grill.

Yes, GMC's take on the freshly-minted Chevrolet Equinox looks like it might eat your kids, but the ruggedly handsome Terrain is really more Rosedale than Rubicon, Which is a good thing. For its intended mission as a compact CUV to go up against such stalwarts as the Honda CR-V, Ford Escape and Toyota RAV4, this little Jimmy makes a pretty strong case.

The Ingersoll, Ont.-built Terrain starts at $27,465 for the base front-drive SLE-1 model with a 182 hp 2.4L four-cylinder. My tester was the top trim SLT-2 front-drive four-cylinder variant with a base price of $34,400. All wheel drive adds $1355 to the upper trim levels (SLT-1 and SLT-2) or $1610 to the lower (SLE-1 and SLE-2). A 264 hp 3.0L V6 is available for $2050 in the three upper trim levels.

Like its bigger brother, the Lambda-platform GMC Acadia, the Terrain benefits from some fine dynamic tuning. The ride is compliant and refined, yet it also shows commendable poise on the B-road stuff. The variable assist rack-and-pinion steering feels good too.

On the highway, the Terrain SLT-2 makes for a relaxed tourer. The eight-way power driver's seat with power lumbar is first-rate (the passenger makes do with two-way manual) and there's surprisingly little wind or engine noise. Perusing the spec sheet reveals standard active noise cancellation in the four-cylinder models.

The cabin design echoes the exterior with angular architecture featuring high quality materials and enough visual bling to keep things interesting. There's plenty of well thought out storage, including a closed compartment under the centre armrest large enough for a laptop computer, and two-tier storage in the doors.

Base Terrains come standard with 17-inch alloy wheels, OnStar, Driver Information Centre, auto-dim rearview mirror with back up camera display, block heater and Stabilitrak stability control.

The upper three trim levels get Bluetooth connectivity with voice recognition, premium Pioneer sound with subwoofer and XM radio. Key SLT-2 features include leather, exterior chrome trim, sunroof, programmable powered lift gate, and rear park assist.

On the plus side, it's a smooth unit and returns the best fuel economy in this segment — 9.2L/100 km city and 6.1L/100 km highway on regular fuel.

General Motors is positioning the GMC Terrain a rung above the Chevy Equinox. As we're seeing with many new GM vehicles, this well-sorted little tyke comes across as very grown up indeed.

The 2010 GMC Terrain combines a powerful, handsome look with refined ride and utility.

2010 GMC Terrain

Type: Crossover utility vehicle
Price: from $27,465
Engine: 2.4L four-cylinder/3.0L V6
HP: 182/264

Highlights

- High-quality interior with plenty of storage
- Refined ride

iTunes tagging in Fords

NEW TECHNOLOGY iTunes Tagging and HD radio technology are the latest features on Ford's growing list of factory-installed customer conveniences and technologies that will be newly available in 2010.

These vehicles will offer familiar terrestrial radio, HD radio technology, SIRIUS Satellite Radio as well as Internet radio through Ford SYNC from a Bluetooth-streaming audio-capable smartphone.

The world's first implementation of iTunes Tagging in a factory-installed HD radio receiver will also be available.

Through the SYNC system, iTunes Tagging will provide Ford customers with the ability to capture a song they hear on the HD radio receiver for later purchase.

With a simple push of the "Tag" button on the radio display, the song information will be stored in the radio's memory.

Up to 100 tags can be stored on SYNC until the iPod is connected to receive the download of metadata. FROM CARGUIDE

AutoPilot
Michael Goetz

Read this week's column at metronews.ca/autopilot

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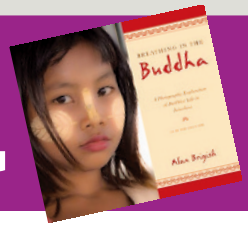
Aeroplan partners with Offsetters

Groupe Aeroplan has announced a new strategic partnership with Offsetters, a leading Canadian provider of high quality climate solutions. Offsetters creates permanent emissions reductions through carbon offsets programs. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel



Breathing in the culture

Documentary photographer Alan Brigish has just released his second limited edition coffee table book, Breathing in the Buddha: A Photographic Exploration of Buddhist Life in Indochina ($50). The book's luminous images tell two parallel stories. The first explores the daily life of Buddhist people in three cities within Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia, and then reflects the author's extensive travels throughout Burma and gives tips on where to see. The second story is the author's exploration of the Buddha's teachings and how they impact on people's lives. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

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CLAUDIO GARRIDO/FOR METRO CANADA

Surfing in Pichilemu offers options for all ages and experience.

Chile always in season

Variety of outdoor activities dominate tourism landscape

CLAUDIO GARRIDO
for Metro Canada

At just 175km wide but a massive 4,300-km long, the landscape of the world's southern-most country just begs to be experienced — surf, ski and sip all in the same season.

Surf in Pichilemu

Pichilemu boasts some of the biggest waves on the planet and is a magnet for surfers worldwide. Punta Lobos Beach is a great place to start as there are many surf schools where you can learn the basics (from $22 per day — equipment included).

When to go: December through February

Mountainbike in Chilean vineyards, Santa Cruz

Chilean wines are among the best in the world and many vineyards offer cycle tours around their estates.

Prices from around $30 including bike and wine tasting.

Try the Wine Route of Colchagua Valley (rutadelvino.cl) or check out www.turisvino.com

When to go: all year

Skiing and kayaking in Pucon

Base yourself at the town of Pucon on Lake Villarrica for the brilliant whitewaters of the Trancura river (three out of a maximum of five for difficulty) or just raft on the lake (kayakpucon.net).

When you're done head to the slopes at the nearby Villarrica volcano. (www.skipucon.cl)

When to go: July and August

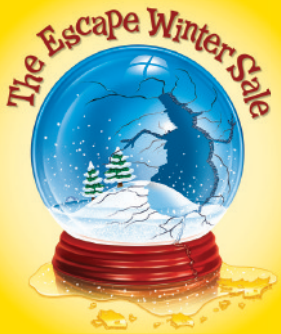
CLAUDIO GARRIDO/FOR METRO CANADA

Climbing the icy peaks is only half the fun in Patagonia.

Climbing in Patagonia

The stunning mountains of Patagonia in the south provide the material for both amateur rock hopping together with expeditions to extraordinary glacier Gray. The eight-hour trek starts at Camp Gray (Parque Nacional Torres del Paine), every day from November to February). Technical equipment is provided. When to go: September to February

home | flights | packages | hotels | cars | rail | cruises | activities | insurance | SALE deals | destinations | maps | business



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Efron looking for a Hangover
Zac Efron wants to star in The Hangover sequel. He would love a role in the movie because he was such a fan of the first film, which was a worldwide box office smash. He said: "I haven't got that call yet to join them but that would be amazing." FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Ring hollow
Kim Kardashian says rumours of a supposed deal she made with boyfriend Reggie Bush to buy her an engagement ring if his New Orleans Saints win the Super Bowl are totally false. PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Ford made to Measure

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Few actors have achieved the iconic status of Harrison Ford. The man who cracked Indiana Jones' whip and flew the Millenium Falcon is an idol for generations of movie lovers — and has made Hollywood lots of money.

When asked if he ever predicted his success, Ford humbly admits that it was hardly what he expected. "I thought if I was really lucky I'd get a regular part in a TV series. I had no ambition to be anything more than an employed actor," Ford says.

"I had no concept of the potential that I was lucky enough to achieve. I thought I was a character actor, not a leading man."

But despite all his success, the 67-year old Ford admits he is now less interested in finding high profile films to increase his star status than he is in finding roles that interest him as an actor.

Extraordinary Measures opens in theatres on Friday

"What I look for is something different from what I've done lately and a role that plays an important part in telling a story that I think would make a good movie," says Ford.

This search for material led Ford to produce Extraordinary Measures, the true story of John Crowley, a man who gave up a successful career to pursue a cure to the rare disease affecting his children.

It was Ford who brought the material to the studio to turn it into a film. "I thought Crowley's story was a fantastic example of what courage, conviction, and passion can do to change your life," says Ford.

"I was looking for material to develop in which I would have a role to play. It seemed to me that the best ally for a character was story. So I thought that if I had a strong story I could find a strong character."

The project allowed Ford to create the role of the surely Dr. Robert Stonehill, who helps Crowley achieve his goal. Stonehill is not based on a real person, instead Ford created his character based on the research that he and his filmmaking partners uncovered.

"We didn't find anyone as maladjusted and difficult as my character, but we found the circumstances that might lead a man to feel that way. Often a college's football coach will make more than the entire science budget of some institutions," says Ford.

Brendan Fraser and Harrison Ford star in Extraordinary Measures.

Of course, no matter what the actor has done lately, fans still want to see him return to his most famous roles. Ford admits there's a chance he will be donning Indy's fedora again. "George Lucas is working on a new idea. If it bears fruit and Steven Spielberg and I both respond to it, I'd be happy to do it," says Ford. But for now, the actor is primarily focused on finding new and interesting characters to share with his audience.

Rush is to join the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Songwriters' hall of fame to add Rush, Charlebois

MUSIC Legendary rock trio Rush, Quebec singer Robert Charlebois and Dolores Claman's iconic The Hockey Theme are among this year's inductees to the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame.

A gala next month will induct 11 composers and 16 songs into the institution, which officials say will get a permanent "bricks and mortar" home at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. Hall of fame president Sylvia Tyson says each of the new inductees have helped define Canada's musical legacy.

Songs that will be honoured include Rush's Limelight, Closer to the Heart, The Spirit of Radio and Tom Sawyer, as well as the Charlebois tunes Fu man chu, Ordinaire, Les ailes d'un ange, and Demain l'hiver.

The inductees will be honoured at a gala on March 28 in Toronto.

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Celebrity Buzz

Her rocker gives her a rock

A DIAMOND, PEOPLE! NOT THE OTHER KIND OF ROCK Kate Moss' boyfriend, Jamie Hince, surprised her with quite the birthday present by meeting up with her in the Caribbean and popping the question, according to Hollyscoop.

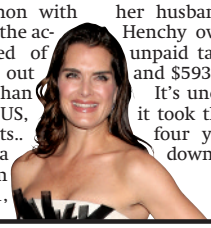
"Kate was stunned," a source says. "Jamie called her up and told her not to come home. He said he was flying out to Mustique. He had carefully picked a ring and chose her birthday to propose. It was the first time they had been alone together in quite a while and it was extremely emotional."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Brooke is on the IRS hook

FOR THE PRICE OF A BIRKIN BAG It appears Brooke Shields has a little something in common with Nicolas Cage — the actress is accused of stiffing the IRS out of more than $10,000 US, TMZ.com reports..

According to a federal tax lien filed on Dec. 31, 2009 — the same day Uncle Sam smacked Cage for $6 million — Shields and her husband Christopher Henchy owe $4391.70 in unpaid taxes from 2004 and $5932.50 from 2005 It's unclear as to why it took the government four years to clamp down on the couple.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Baby Daddy?

STARS DON'T GO THROUGH MENOPAUSE, RIGHT? Madonna is reportedly looking to expand her family by having a child with Jesus Luz, her Brazilian male model boyfriend, according to the Sun. "She knows that, at 51, it's going to be harder to conceive naturally," a source says. "But she is Olympic-athlete fit and is ready for the challenge."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Just friends

AND BALANCE HAS RETURNED TO THE UNIVERSE Turns out the rumors about Jessica Simpson dating Billy Corgan weren't true, according to Fox News. "Jessica loved spending so much time in and out of the studio with Billy. She's in awe of his musical prowess, and it adds to her feelings for him, but they are not dating," a source says.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

RICKY MARTIN is pitching in, **ELLEN DEGENERES** does in fact want to brag, **ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER** makes motivating sound threatening, and **KATY PERRY** is perplexed by rain in Los Angeles.

@ricky_martin on my way to #Haiti

@TheEllenShow I don't want to brag, but Keith Urban serenaded me today.

@schwarzenegger Maria and I are pumping up all the great kids volunteering at Van Nuys Middle School

@katyperry Do i shower or just stand out side for one minute?

METRO WORLD NEWS

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 1/20/10	251	308	3 CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (N) (CC)		Republic of Doyle (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	254	-	8 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		The Simpsons
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	American Idol (N) (CC)		Criminal Minds (N) (CC)		CSI: NY "Flag on the Play" (N)		CTV News
	-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	The Practice "New Evidence"		Third Watch "Lights Up"		P3	Ek Noor	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House "Son of Coma Guy"		Kitchen Nightmares (CC)		The Deep End "Pilot" (CC)		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N) (CC)	Old Christine	The Middle	Along Came Polly ★★ (2004) Ben Stiller. (CC)				A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Ugly Betty "Blackout!" (N)		Mercy "Wake Up, Bill" (N)		Family	Cougar Town	The Jay Leno Show (N) (CC)		The CityNews
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	Life Unexpected "Pilot"		Gossip Girl (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Old Christine	Unmarried	Criminal Minds (N) (CC)		CSI: NY "Flag on the Play" (N)		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Mercy "Wake Up, Bill" (N)		Law & Order: SVU		The Jay Leno Show (N) (CC)		KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Supernanny (CC)		Dine With Me	Grocery Bag	Restaur.	Restaur.	Chef Worthy	Fearl-Kitchen	Grocery Bag
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Family	The Middle	Family	Cougar Town	(:01) Ugly Betty "Blackout!"		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Chilly Dogs ★ (2001) Skeet Ulrich, Natasha Henstridge.				Seinfeld	King	Cheers (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Cascades	Steves Europe	The Human Spark (N)		Great Performances at the Met "The Audition" (N) (CC)				MI-5 (CC)
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol (N) (CC)		Human Target "Rewind"		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	45 PBS	Great Performances at the Met "The Audition" (N) (CC)				Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		The Human Spark	
	296	654	54 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	The Office	Name Is Earl	South Park	Half & Half	Fat Loss	Street Court	Cold Files
	298	653	55 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Life Unexpected "Pilot"		Gossip Girl (CC)		KTLA 5 News at 10 (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	56 WGN	WGN News	NBA Basketball Chicago Bulls at Los Angeles Clippers. (Live) (CC)					Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
	297	652	57 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According/Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show W/Letterman		Late Late Show/Ferguson		Inside Edition	Seinfeld
news	502	390	23 NW	Can Obama Save the Planet?		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Can Obama Save the Planet?		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Edmonton Oilers. (Subject to Blackout)					Sportsnet	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		Tennis Australian Open, Second Round. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live)						SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth (CC)		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters Academy		Ghost Hunters
	410	403	54 SCR	College Basketball		Score Now		Score Now		Score Now		Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	(4:00) Barrett-Jackson Automobile Auction (Live)				Barrett-Jackson Automobile Auction From Westworld Scottsdale, Ariz.				
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol Español				Gol TV News	Foot Brazil	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	iCarly (CC)	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol
	555	545	50 TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Chicken
	557	541	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	553	546	52 TRE	Babar (CC)	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	(:35) Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Blue Realm (CC) (DVS)		Chinese School (CC)		Music From the Inside Out ★★★ (2004) (CC)			Delicate Battle	Paddle-Sea
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Due South "Mask" (CC)		Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba "As Is"	Reba (CC)	According-Jim
	570	580	24 MM	50 Moments	50 Moments	50 Moments	Video on Trial	Pimp My Ride	My Own	Love Court	My Date	Spotlight
	600	564	25 H&G	House	House	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Agent-Agent	Intervention	Property	Unsellable	House Hunt
	615	520	31 A&E	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Bounty Hunter	(:31) Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter	Steven Seagal
	628	584	32 SPKE	Ways to Die	MANswers (N)	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	MANswers	Ways to Die	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Mysteries
	521	560	34 TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras (N) (CC)		TV Murders: Fiore-Pressly		Hoarders: Buried Alive (CC)		Toddlers & Tiaras (CC)		Holloway-Lost
	616	522	35 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		Abducted: Fugitive for Love (2007, Drama) Sarah Wynter. (CC)				HawthoRNe (N) (CC)		NCIS (CC)
	620	523	40 BVO	White Collar "Free Fall"		Law & Order "Wannabe"		Without a Trace (CC)		White Collar "Free Fall"		Modeling
	601	562	41 SLC	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	What	Real Housewives-Atlanta		Real Housewives OC		Runway
	520	505	42 DIS	Mayday (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		Mayday (CC)		The Colony "Power Struggle"		License
	522	506	44 HIS	Ice Pilots NWT (N) (CC)		Nostradamus Effect (N) (CC)		Ice Road Truckers (CC)		Ice Pilots NWT (CC)		Re-Inventors
	627	528	45 SPC	Chuck (N) (CC)		InnerSpace	Stargate SG-1 (CC)		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Lost "He's Our You" (CC)	
	294	650	47 TBS	Meet, Browns	Meet, Browns	Lopez Tonight (N)		Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
	619	525	48 TROP	Rescue Ink "In Your Face"		Hoarders (N) (CC)		Hoarders Criminal littering. (N)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Spoiled
	603	561	53 FN	Chopped (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Chopped (CC)		Iron Chef Am.
	-	-	55 AMC	Behind Enemy	True Lies ★★★ (1994, Action) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jamie Lee Curtis, Tom Arnold. (CC)						True Lies ★★★ (1994) (CC)	
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Little Britain	Hot Box	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:20) Boot Camp (2007) (CC)		Life Is Hot in Cracktown (2009) Premiere.		(:45) Bridge to Nowhere (2009) Ving Rhames. Premiere.				
	581	566	101 MTV	The Real World (N) (CC)		MTV Live	After	Teen Mom (CC)		The Real World (CC)		MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Unscripted (N)	God Bless	Poltergeist: The Legacy		The Cutting Edge ★★ (1992) D.B. Sweeney. (CC)				Paid Program
	-	-	103 MUL	Sewing Maid	Immortal	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical	Temas	Patrol World

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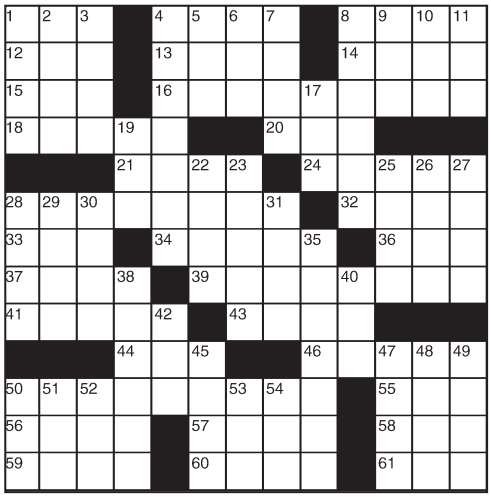
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Pretense
4 Sit for a snapshot
8 Sleeping
12 Also
13 Press
14 "Arrivederci"
15 Lummox
16 Triangular Halloween treat
18 Use tweezers
20 Witness
21 Brewery products
24 Despots
28 Measures of luminous intensity
32 Fat
33 Mimic
34 Novelist Ephron
36 Grazing area
37 Anthropologist Margaret
39 Openly
41 Added
43 Martial-arts school
44 Sprite
46 Expand a computer file
50 February 2nd
55 Before
56 Enthusiastic
57 Right on the map?
58 — Francisco
59 Took the bus
60 Fling
61 Potent stick

DOWN

1 Surmounting
2 Brat's stocking stuffer
3 Vegan's protein source
4 Intoxicated
5 "... man — mouse?"
6 Trinity member
7 Tackles' teammates
8 Way in
9 Resume, for short
10 Listener
11 Dress in
17 Nevertheless
19 Scoundrel
22 A util.
23 Dieter's entree
25 "— Lang Syne"
26 Fishing rod attachment
27 Remain
28 Arrived
29 Pinnacle
30 Spruced up
31 China (Pref.)
35 Tweaks
38 Coat with flour
40 Charged bit
42 Every last crumb
45 Poetic measures
47 Vivacity
48 Persia, now
49 Confined, with "up"
50 Gridlock component
51 Past
52 Affirmative action?
53 Long March leader
54 Foolish one

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

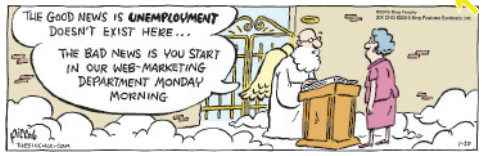
4		1		3	2			8
	7		6					4
	2		4				3	
2							4	
		5	1		3	9		
	3							6
	5				1		8	
8					4		2	
9			5	2		7		

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

9	8	7	6	3	5	4	1	2
4	3	5	7	1	2	8	9	6
6	2	1	8	9	4	5	7	3
3	6	2	9	4	8	7	5	1
1	9	8	2	5	7	6	3	4
5	7	4	1	6	3	2	8	9
2	5	6	3	8	9	1	4	7
7	4	3	5	2	1	9	6	8
8	1	9	4	7	6	3	2	5

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca


THE GOOD NEWS IS UNEMPLOYMENT DOESN'T EXIST HERE...
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Metro Recipe of the Day

Golden Kebabs with Zesty Mayonnaise

INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
2 tsp (10 mL) turmeric
2 garlic cloves, crushed
4 skinless boneless chicken breasts
3 nectarines, halved and pitted
12 baby peppers, halved
2 scallions, chopped
Grated zest of 1/2 lemon
6 3/4 tbsp (100 mL) mayonnaise
1/3 cup (75 mL) plain low-fat yogurt
lemon juice, to taste

METHOD:

1. Put olive oil in bowl. Add turmeric, garlic and seasoning. Cut each chicken breast into six chunks, then add to mixture and toss to coat. Set aside.
2. Preheat broiler to high. Cut each nectarine half into four wedges, for 24 pieces in total. Thread chicken, nectarines and peppers onto eight metal skewers, nestling wedges of nectarine inside pepper halves and alternating with chicken chunks. Put kebabs into large, shallow, ovenproof dish.
3. Broil kebabs 5 minutes per side. Chicken should be cooked through and peppers and edges of nectarines should be well browned, with charring in places.
4. In small bowl, mix scallions and lemon zest with mayonnaise and yogurt, and add lemon juice to taste. Serve dollops of dressing beside kebabs.

SERVES 4

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
As from today you will find it easier to get along with other people, both in your work environment and in your private life.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You cannot afford to get upset about things that require a practical rather than an emotional response.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You may not have been looking or feeling your best of late but don't worry because within a matter of days you will be back on top of the world again.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
If you have been living beyond your means in recent weeks then you will have to tighten your belt considerably as from today.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You will make some interesting new friends over the next few weeks while the Sun is moving through your opposite sign of Aquarius.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Get a grip on your working routine. Draw up a schedule and stick to it. It may be the last thing you want to do but wanting does not come into it.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Be adventurous, be courageous, and above all believe that you have what it takes to be the best at what you do.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Make allowances for people who are more emotional than you. Not everyone possesses your self-control.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Try not to see every encounter as a battle that must be won. You can easily turn enemies into allies and foes into friends, simply by talking to them.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
The Sun leaves your birth sign today but you don't have to leave the good times behind. In many ways your luck will improve over the next few weeks.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Even if your actual birthday is not for some days or weeks yet it will feel like your birthday over the next 24 hours, so by all means celebrate.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
The most important thing now is that you make a mental effort to look on the bright side, even if what happens today is not entirely to your liking.

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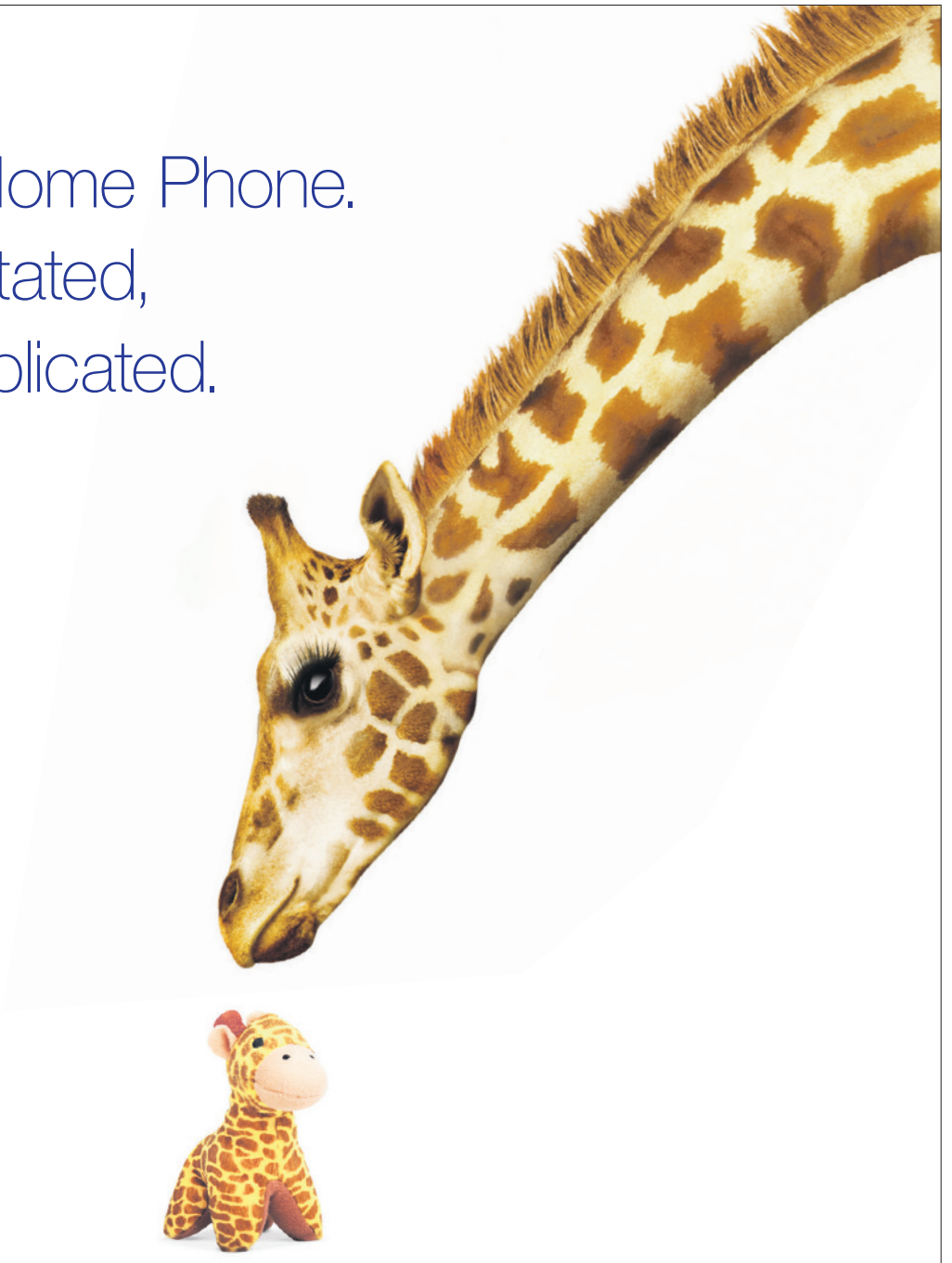

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